

What is claimed is:

1. A pinch roller unit, adapted to be disposed on a main deck of a magnetic recording/reading apparatus on which a head drum and a capstan are disposed, to move in relation to movement of a sub-deck, which is disposed to slide on the main deck, to bring a tape into close contact with the capstan, the pinch roller unit comprising:

a pivoting lever, rotatably disposed on the main deck to pivot towards the capstan in relation to movement of the sub-deck in a loading direction;

a pinch roller, rotatably disposed at an end of the pivoting lever and adapted to be brought into contact with the capstan during loading of the sub-deck; and

a torsion spring that is stressed by being pushed by the sliding member sliding in at least one direction transverse of the main deck, to push the pivoting lever towards the capstan.

2. A pinch roller unit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the torsion spring is coaxially connected with the pivoting lever and prevented from being released from the pivoting lever.

3. A pinch roller unit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the torsion spring is stressed and released over a predetermined angle by being pushed and released by the sliding member.

4. A pinch roller unit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one transverse direction is transverse to the movement of the sub-deck.

5. A pinch roller unit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pivoting lever includes a protrusion, such that when the sub-deck is loaded into the magnetic recording/reading apparatus the sub-deck comes in contact with the protrusion and pushes the pivoting lever.